

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-9 are pending in the present application, and Claims 1-9 have been amended by the present amendment. It is believed no new matter has been added by the present amendment.

In the outstanding Office Action, the abstract was objected to; Claims 1, 4, and 7 were objected to; Claims 8 and 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph; Claims 1 and 7-9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) and (e) as anticipated by Pipon or under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) and (b) as anticipated by Mdyastha; and Claims 2-6 were indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Applicants thank the examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter.

Regarding the objection to the abstract, a new abstract has been added in light of the comments noted in the outstanding Office Action. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested the objection to the abstract be withdrawn.

Regarding the objection to Claims 1, 4, and 7, the claims have been amended in light of the comments noted in the outstanding Office Action. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested the objections to Claims 1, 4, and 7 be withdrawn.

Regarding rejection of Claims 8 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, the claims have been amended in light of the comments noted in the outstanding Office Action. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested the rejection of Claims 8 and 9 be withdrawn.

Claims 1 and 7-9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) and (e) as anticipated by Pipon or under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) and (b) as anticipated by Mdyastha. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Amended Claim 1 is directed a method of estimating the parameters of a propagation channel, having prior knowledge of a signal  $c(t)$ , in a system having sensors. The method includes correlating signals  $x(t)$  received by the sensors with the signal  $c(t)$ , sampling the signals  $x(t)$  at a sampling period  $T_e$  and selecting a number of samples per concatenation, and determining parameters of the propagation channel, including  $\tau$  or  $\theta$ , which enable a most efficient reconstruction of the signals  $x(t)$  via a maximum likelihood method. Amended Claim 8 recites similar subject matter.

Applicants respectfully submit that Pipon does not describe or suggest the steps recited in amended Claim 1. Pipon concerns a method for multi-sensor equalization in a radio receiver, utilizing a determined number of filters (col. 4, lines 56 – 67). The steps taught by Pipon include transforming a signal received by sensors into an equivalent baseband signal, sampling the baseband signal at a rate that is a multiple of the symbol rate, and filtering the sampled signal using a low-pass filter process. Further, in the presence of interference, the respective coefficients of the filters of the spatial part and temporal part are jointly and periodically recalculated, at each iteration, by an adaptive algorithm working at the symbol rate to minimize the estimation error produced between the receiver output signal and the response signal (col. 5, lines 1 – 39). Accordingly, it is respectfully requested the rejection of Claims 1 and 7-9 under Pipon be withdrawn.

Applicants further respectfully submit that Mdyastha does not describe or suggest the steps recited in amended Claim 1. Rather, Mdyastha (1) concerns the CDMA technical field, where the stream of data is modulated using a spreading sequence of length  $N$  (col. 1, para. 2), (2) teaches a process that presumes a single path channel (col. 1, para. 2), and (3) obtains the observation vector by sampling the outputs of chip matched filters, at each of the  $M$

sensors, at the chip rate N\*1 to produce r (col. 1, para. 4). Accordingly, it is respectfully requested the rejection of Claims 1 and 7-9 under Mdyastha be withdrawn.

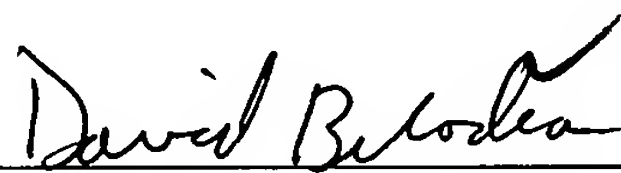
Consequently, in light of the above discussion and in view of the present amendment, the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance and an early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

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